(c) whether it is also a fact that Container Corporation of India Limited are likely to float tenders for earthwork in and around Bombay during the next six months and if so, what are the complete details thereof, with the value of each tender?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Only one contract for earthwork at New Mulund has been awarded during last one year. The contract has been awarded to M/s Thakur Construction. The value of the work is Rs. 5,50,000/- (Rupees five lakhs fifty thousand only).

(c) There is no such proposal for the present.

यात्री-किराए की वापसी में विलम्ब होने पर ब्याज का भुगतान करने के लिये उपभोक्ता न्यायालय का निर्देश

8084. **श्रीमती आनन्दीबेन जेठाभाई पटेल** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में उपभोक्ता न्यायालय ने रेलवे को यह आदेश दिया है कि यदि रेलवे विभाग रेल किराए को दो सप्ताह के भीतर वापस करने में विफल रहता है तो उसे रेल-किराए की धनराशि पर ब्याज का भुगतान भी करना पड़ेगा ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) उन राज्यों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जिनमें ये आदेश लागू होंगे ; और

(घ) उनका राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ) (क) और (ख) दो अलग-अलग मामलों में, जिला उपभोक्ता न्यायालय ने रेलवे को, विलंब से धन वापसी पर ब्याज का भुगतान करने के आदेश दिए थे । लेकिन राज्य आयोग दिल्ली द्वारा इन आदेशों को रद्द कर दिया गया था ।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Gauge conversion of Mangalore-Arsikere and Bogalkot-Gadag rail lines

8085. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rapid pace of industrialisation of Mangalore in Karnataka with steel, refinery, petrochemical and thermal power plant projects coming up in a big way and if so, whether any plans have been mooted to convert the rail lines from, Mangalore-Arsikere and Bogalkot-Gadag, to broad gauge;

(b) whether the Centre has studied the techno-economic study for the gauge convension prepared by M/s. Jaiprakash Engg. & Steel Company Limited and its comments thereon; and

(c) whether the Railways would ensure that investors do not back out from such projects on the plea of inadequate rail linkage of Mangalore with coal and ore-mining areas?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. The Gauge Conversion of both the lines has been taken up.

(b) M/s. Jaiprakash Engg. & Steel Company Ltd. has since dropped the proposal.

(c) Adequate rail linkages wherever found necessary are being provided.

Expenditure on hiring aircrafts

8086. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: